



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PORT ARTHUR MAN GUILTY OF FRAUD

(Beaumont, TX) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today that a 38-year-old Port Arthur man has pleaded guilty to a federal mail fraud charge in the Eastern District of Texas. **JASON LAMAR KAY** admitted to the charge before United States District Judge Ron Clark today.

According to information presented in court, Kay operated an Internet business known as "www.manwhatadeal.com" by means of false and fraudulent pretenses. As part the scheme from 2004 to 2005, Kay advertised the sale of 50" plasma television sets for \$1,999. The website falsely stated that because the company did business with several major electronic companies directly, the defendant's company was able to charge up to three times less than what other electronic wholesalers charge, allowing the purchaser to obtain products at 50% to 80% below retail value. The website also falsely stated that because the company shipped its products directly from the factory, there was an estimated delivery time of six to eight weeks. Kay then used "lulling" or stalling tactics, such as emails after the shipping period had passed without delivery, to assure customers that the televisions would soon be delivered or a refund of their purchase payment was forthcoming.

Despite numerous individuals sending \$1,999 for the purchase of plasma televisions, Kay did not deliver or arrange for delivery of any plasma televisions to customers of "www.manwhatadeal.com". As a result, Kay received funds from various customers of "www.manwhatadeal.com" totaling approximately \$275,000.

Kay faces up to 20 years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$250,000, as well as restitution to his victims. A sentencing date has not been set. Kay is currently in custody pending sentencing.

This case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service and the Port Arthur Police Department. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Robert L. Rawls.

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